

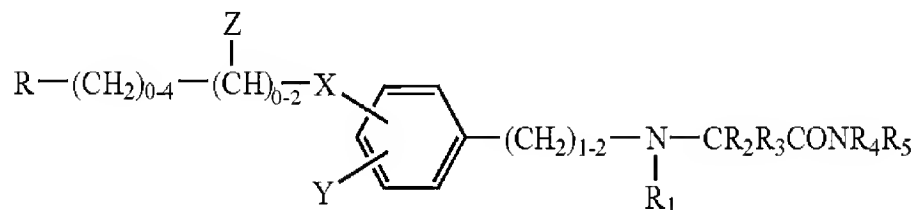
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

**1-13. (cancelled)**

**14. (currently amended)** An  $\alpha$ -aminoamide compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein:

$R$  is a furyl, thienyl, pyridyl ring or a phenyl ring, optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano,  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1-C_6$  alkoxy or trifluoromethyl;

$R_1$  is hydrogen or  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl or  $C_3-C_7$  cycloalkyl;

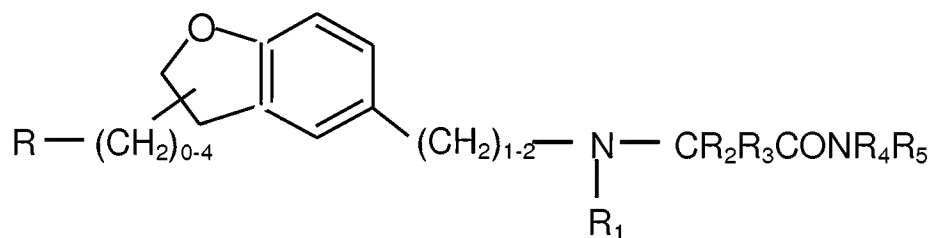
$R_2$  and  $R_3$  are independently selected from hydrogen,  $C_1-C_4$  alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or phenyl, phenyl in which the phenyl rings being optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl, halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1-C_6$  alkoxy or trifluoromethyl; or  $R_2$  and

R<sub>3</sub>, taken with the carbon atom which they are linked to, form a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl ring;

R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are independently hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkyl; or R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub>, taken together with the nitrogen atom they are linked to, form a 5-7 atom saturated heterocyclic ring;

X is ~~CH<sub>2</sub>~~, O, ~~or~~ S; and

Y and Z taken together form a dihydrobenzofuran, having the following structure:



and/or

stereoisomers, mixtures, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

**15. (previously presented)** The compound according to claim 14, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(3-Benzyl-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl)-amino]-propanamide; 2-[(3-Benzyl-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl)-amino]-N-methyl-propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(2-Fluoro-benzyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-

propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(2-Fluoro-benzyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-N-methyl-propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(3-Fluoro-benzyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(3-Fluoro-benzyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-N-methyl-propanamide; 2-[(3-Phenethyl-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl)-amino]-propanamide; 2-[(3-Phenethyl-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl)-amino]-N-methyl-propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenethyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenethyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-N-methyl-propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenethyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-propanamide; 2-{3-[2-(3-Chloro-phenethyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-propanamide; and 2-{3-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenethyl)]-2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-ylmethyl}-amino)-N-methyl-propanamide; and

stereoisomers, mixtures, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

**16. (previously presented)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and, as an active agent, an effective amount of the  $\alpha$ -aminoamide compound according to claim 14.